

Graham in fair condition after surgery

by UPI

MONTREAT, N.C. -- Evangelist Billy Graham was reported in fair condition Thursday after undergoing surgery to regulate brain pressure. The operation took place Wednesday at Mission Hospitals in Montreat, N.C., where he was expected to remain for several days, a report said. "He was bright and alert and conscious immediately after surgery and called me by name," Dr. Ralph C. Loomis, who headed the operating team, told the Asheville Citizen-Times. Graham, 89, suffers from hydrocephalus, a buildup of fluid in the brain that can cause symptoms similar to Parkinson's Disease. The 28-minute elective procedure, called an aproximal shunt revision, was completed without incident, Loomis said. He replaced the valve with an externally programmable computer valve.

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